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Muscle Shoals Baptist Association

v. 1. 1850

v. 2. 1854

v. 3. 1855

v. 4. 1858

v. 5. 1859

v. 6. 1861

v. 7. 1867

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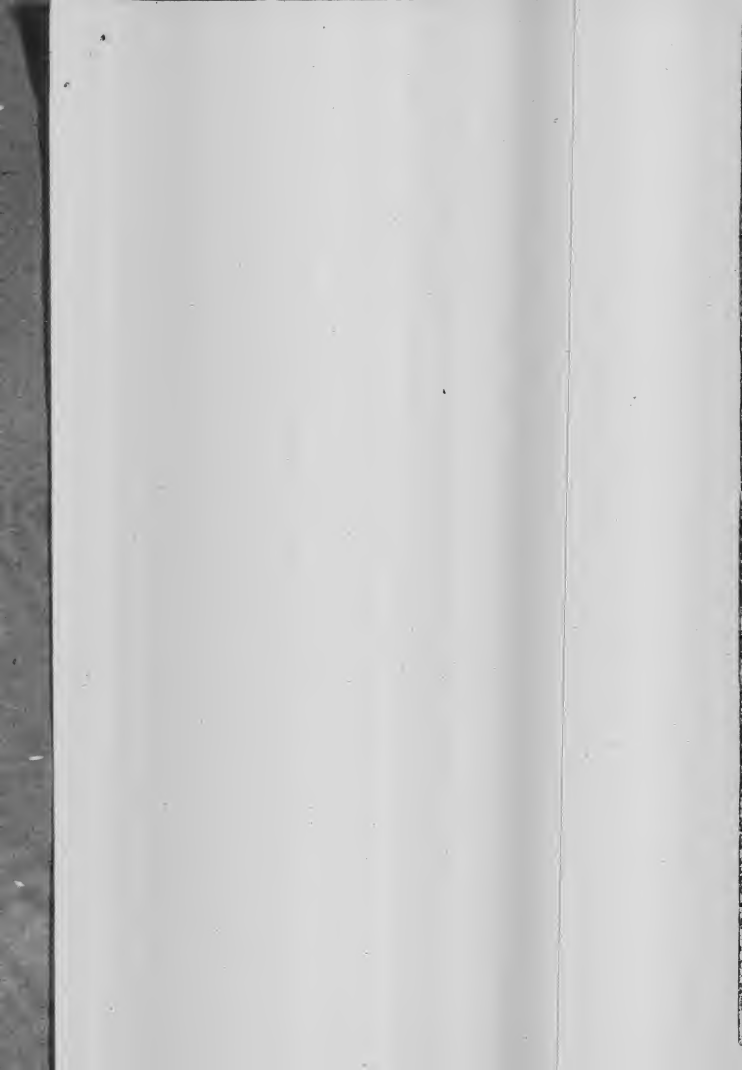
v. 16. 1896

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v. 19. 1899

v. 20. 1900



M I N U T E S
OF THE
FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION,
OF THE
MUSCLE SHOALS ASSOCIATION
OF
B A P T I S T S ,

HELD WITH THE MOUNT PISGAH CHURCH,

MORGAN COUNTY, ALABAMA,

On the 30th of September, and the 1st and 3rd days of October, 1859.

OFFICERS :

ELDER J. GUNN, MODERATOR.
ELDER W. W. WILHITE, CLERK.
DEACON C. GIBSON, TREASURER.

SOMERVILLE, ALA. :

SOMERVILLE DEMOCRAT, PRINT.

1859.

OFFICERS :

ELDER J. GUNN, MODERATOR,

ELDER W. W. WILHITE, CLERK.

DEACON C. GIBSON, TREASURER.

CHURCH, TARRANT, TEXAS

MINUTES.

FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 30, 1859.

The Delegates composing the 40th Annual Session of the Muscle Shoals Baptist Association, convened with the Mount Pisgah Church, Morgan County, Alabama.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder W. W. WILHITE. Text: 22nd Chapter, and 2nd Verse of Revelation.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—Prayer by Elder J. GUNN.

The former Moderator and Clerk being present, took their seats, and the Association proceeded to business in the following manner:

The Letters from the Churches were read, and the names of Delegates enrolled.

Proceeded to elect Elder J. GUNN, Moderator, and Elder W. W. WILHITE, Clerk.

Appointed a committee on devotional exercises, viz: A. HOUK, A. G. OWEN, E. R. STANLEY, and the Delegates from Mt. Pisgah Church.

Called for Petitionary Letters from newly constituted Churches, and Letters were presented from New Prospect, Rock Creek, Bluff Spring, Mt. Pisgah, Bethlehem, and Bear Creek, all of which were received, and the hand of fellowship extended by the Moderator.

Called for Corresponding Letters, and a Letter was given in from Big Bear Creek Association, borne by Elders Mathis and Pane. Also one from the Convention of Churches, held at Frankfort, to consult the propriety of forming a new Association, borne by Elder M. FINNEY.

Invited visiting Brethren to seats in the Association, and the invitation was accepted by Elders BALL, and BOOTH—Elder Ball, Agent for Domestic and Indian Missions, Elder Booth, Agent for Foreign Missions.

Appointed Committees, as follows:

On Sabbath Schools.—J. Shackelford, J. B. Speak, M. W. Mays.

On Documents.—M. Finney, J. P. Craig, C. L. Wilhite.

On Foreign Missions.—T. Nicholson, W. Right, B. M. Stephens.

On the State of Religion.—T. Green, A. W. Nunn, J. Fields.

On Education.—W. J. Thompson, D. Fowler, P. H. Mays.

On Finance.—M. W. Mays, J. C. Halbrook, C. Gibson.

On Domestic Missions.—M. A. Verser, J. K. Lynn, M. Finney.

On Temperance.—W. H. Musgrove, G. L. Brown, C. B. Wilhite.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder Ball.

SATURDAY MORNING—October 1st—9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder Fields.

Appointed the next Association to be held with the Moulton Church, Lawrence County, Ala., on Friday before the 1st Sabbath in October, 1860—Elder J. Gunn to preach the Introductory, Elder J. Shackelford, Alternate.

Appointed Delegates to the General Association of Tennessee, and North Alabama, viz:—I. N. Owen, W. Right, A. Houk, W. A. Gilbert, W. W. Wilhite, J. Gunn, J. Shackelford.

Appointed Delegates to Sister Associations, as follows:—*To Liberty*:—E. Ellett, E. B. Stanley, W. W. Pearson. *North River*:—G. L. Brown, H. Cornelius, W. Right, J. Fields. *Judson*:—T. Green, W. A. Gilbert, B. Roden.

Moved and carried that this Association correspond with the Ten Island Association. W. Right, H. Cornelius, J. K. Lynn, J. Fields, Delegates—Bro. Right to bear the letter.

Appointed a Committee to ascertain the times and places of holding the next Union Meetings:—J. Fields, M. A. Verser, J. P. Craig, E. Ellett.

The Report on Documents was read and adopted:

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

Your Committee on Documents beg leave to make the following Report, upon examination of your papers. We find three queries: One from Mt. Zion, in Morgan—one from Mt. Zion, in Lawrence—one from New Prospect. We advise your body to report them to a special committee for consideration. We find also several Churches petitioning for letters of dismission

to form a new Association in the Fourth District. We advise that you grant their request.—Also, the Antioch Church petitions the privilege to join the North River Association. We advise to grant her request also. We are happy to find that some Churches in our midst are manifesting a spirit of Missions. We call the attention of the Association to the suggestion of Liberty, and also the proposition of Moulton. The letter from Spring Hill asks advice to know whether it will continue as a Church, or dis-olve. We would suggest that she employ an efficient Minister to preach for them, and make suitable preparations for the comfort of the blacks, and make it the duty of her preacher to give the necessary instruction. All of which is respectfully submitted.

M. FINNEY, Chairman.

Appointed a Committee to examine queries, and report: M. A. Versor, J. Shackleford, A. Houk.

The Report of the President of the Female School, at Moulton, was read by Elder Shackleford, and referred to a Committee, consisting of J. Shackleford, C. Gibson, S. M. Fowler, A. Houk, A. G. Owen, and said Committee to appoint Trustees to fill the vacancies of those Trustees whose time has just expired.

Report of the President of the Female School at Moulton:

TO THE MUSCIE SIOALS ASSOCIATION:—The Trustees of the Baptist Female Institute, at Moulton, Alabama, most respectfully submit the following as their Eighth Annual Report:—The last Report of the Trustees brings the history of the progress of the Institute up to the 2nd day of October, 1858. Since that date, up to the end of the last Academic year, which terminated on the day of June, last, the School, with some diminution in the number of Scholars in attendance, was conducted with its usual success and usefulness. The resignation of Prof. SHACKELFORD, at the end of the Fall Session of last year, rendered it necessary for the Board to procure another Principal to supply his place, and to re-organize the Faculty of Teachers. To this end, Prof. ASHLEY D. HURR was elected Principal, and the School during last Session was put under his control, with Miss LAZZIE AUSTIN, as Assistant in the Literary Department, and Miss MAHETTA PROUTY, as Instructress in Music. Since that Session terminated, the Board, notwithstanding they have made two elections for that purpose, have unexpectedly not been able, thus far, to obtain the services of a competent and proper person to act as Principal of the Institution, and the School has not been opened for the Fall Session of the present year. It is hoped that no serious injury will accrue from this delay.

The Library of the Institute, an important and valuable branch of its educational facilities, has been augmented by the donation of Twenty Volumes, since our last Report. It now contains Five Hundred and Sixty-eight Volumes, numbered in regular series, besides four other Volumes which are duplicates of some of the regular series, and are not numbered. Of the volumes thus added, the Hon. GEORGE S. HOUSTON, member of Congress from this District, has given *fifteen*; the Hon. BENJAMIN FITZPATRICK, Senator in Congress from this State, has given *four*, and THOMAS M. PETERS *one*; making the whole number of Books in the Library *Five Hundred and Seventy-two*.

I most respectfully beg to be permitted to direct the serious, and earnest attention of the Association to the financial affairs of the Institute. It is not yet out of debt; and some of those asserting claims against it are unwilling longer to postpone a forcible collection of their demands. The Corporation has no treasury—its moneys are kept in the pockets of its friends, and of those who love learning and its glorious fruits. If these refuse their aid in its necessities, its evil days will not be long in overtaking it. Shall we cry in vain for help? In this connexion, I most respectfully refer the Association to our former Reports on this head, and submit herewith, for their wise inspection, a detailed statement of the Finances of the Corporation, and their administration hitherto, so far as the Board is at present informed. The Church at this place, in conjunction with the Trustees, have taken the necessary steps to furnish the Hall of the Institute with proper seats, that it may be used, when needed, as a house of worship, in accordance with the permission granted by your reverend body at their last convention.

The Board of Trustees, as at present organized, is composed of the following persons, who are named in sections for the years in which they were appointed, to-wit:—Washington A. Gilbert, James Streeter, Michael W. Mays, and Asa Hodges, appointed in 1858. Levi F.

Warren, James B. Speake, Amos Jarman, and William McKelvey, appointed in 1857. James Wise, Thomas M. Peters, and Richard O. Pickett, appointed in 1856; and Darius Lynch, and John Y. Shoemaker, appointed by the Board to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignations of John N. Walker, and Christopher C. Gowin, who have resigned since the last meeting of the Association. The Officers of the Board, are, Thomas M. Peters, President. Asa Hodges, Secretary, and Richard O. Pickett, Treasurer. Those Trustees who constitute the section appointed in 1856, and those appointed by the Board to fill vacancies, will need to be re-appointed, or other persons should be elected to fill their places.

All which is most respectfully submitted.

THOMAS M. PETERS, PRES'T BOARD OF TRUSTEES.
1859.

Moulton, ALABAMA, October

1. Called for the Report of the Committee on Home Missions, which was read and adopted:

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee on the subject of Home Missions, beg leave to report: That after mature deliberation, they have arrived at the opinion, that the plan suggested by the Missionary Mass Meeting, at Moulton, with some slight alteration, is the best that this Association can adopt for the ensuing year. We herewith submit that plan, with the alteration which we have made, and respectfully recommend its adoption. We suggest that a committee of five brethren be appointed by the Association, who shall constitute an Executive Board; and that this Board be located at Moulton, it being the most central point. Let this Board be authorized to secure two or more men, such as they shall deem fit, to act as Missionaries and Colporteurs for the next year, at a salary of not less than \$1,000. If more than two can be secured, let one of these be appointed to labor amongst the colored population. Let this Board control the Missionaries, so far as appointing their fields of labor, superintending their general work, and dismissing them if they deem it proper and prudent. Let it be the duty of the Board to report to the Association, at its annual session, the amount of funds received from the Churches, and collected by the Missionaries for Missionary purposes within the bounds of the Association, and have such expended. Let them also report the labors of each Missionary, viz: The number of sermons preached, and exhortations delivered, persons baptised, churches organized, days employed, nights traveled, bibles and books sold, bibles, books and tracts given away, number of families without bibles, or books of religious character. Let this Board procure bibles, tracts, and denominational books, with money which shall be raised for that purpose, and let them divide these books between the Missionaries, who shall sell them at a reasonable per-centage, and give away to such persons as they shall deem proper if they are not able to buy. Let the Board re-invest the money thus brought in by the sale of books, and in this way keep the Missionaries constantly supplied. Let the Missionaries who may be employed act also as Agents for the collection of funds. Let it be the duty of the Missionaries to visit all parts of the Association, and to preach at the various Churches, and destitute places within its limits, and let them collect money and take up subscriptions for the support of Missionary labor within the bounds of this Association. Let them also assist the Pastors of Churches in Protracted Meetings, and let it be understood that whatever money is given to them at those meetings, as a compensation for their labors, those amounts are to be counted with their other collections. Let the Missionaries report quarterly to the Executive Board an account of all their operations, funds collected, amounts subscribed, sermons preached, exhortations delivered, persons baptized, churches organized, days employed, miles traveled, Bibles, Testaments, and Books sold, Bibles, Testaments, Tracts, and Books given away, families without a Bible, or Testament, or religious books of any kind.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

M. A. VERSER, CHAIRMAN.

Appointed an Executive Board, consisting of C. Gibson, Z. F. Freeman, W. A. Gilbert, I. N. Owen, J. Y. Shoemaker.

Moved, and carried, that we take a collection to purchase Books, to be sold by the Missionaries, which resulted in the collection of \$70 50, in cash, and some \$34 00, by subscription:

Called for the Report on District Meetings, which was read and received.

Your Committee on District Meetings, beg leave to report the following:

1st District.—At Mt. Moriah, Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in October, 1859.

2nd District.—At Enon, Saturday before the 3rd Sabbath in May, 1860.

3rd District.—At Shilo, Friday before the 5th Sabbath in July, 1860.

4th District.—At Good Hope, Friday before the 1st Sabbath in August, 1860.

M. A. VERSER, CHAIRMAN.

The Report of the Committee on Temperance was read, and, after some discussion, the following Resolution was adopted, to be spread upon the Minutes:

Resolved, That we regard the traffic in ardent spirits, and the habitual use of them as a beverage, as a violation of the duties we owe as good citizens to the communities in which we live, and an outrage upon the best and dearest interests of society, degrading to the moral and physical man, and disgraceful to a Christian profession; and that we are under the most imperative obligations to society, and to the cause of Christ, to use all fair measures in our capacity, as citizens, and all the moral suasion which we may possess, as Christians, to put down the traffic in ardent spirits, and their use as a beverage.

After Prayer by Elder Musgrove, adjourned to 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—Prayer by Elder Mathis.

Called the names of Delegates, and marked absentees.

Resolved, That the Brother appointed to preach on to-morrow, at 10 o'clock, be requested to preach on Missions.

The Committee on devotional exercises reported the following Brethren to preach on Sabbath: Elder Ball, at 10 o'clock. Elder Booth, to follow. Elder Mathis, in the evening.

A. HOUK, CHAIRMAN.

The Report on Foreign Missions was read and received. This Report called forth an able Speech from Elder Booth, and he took a collection of \$20 00 of that purpose, and \$5 00 for the Home and Foreign Journal.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

CHRISTIAN BRETHREN:—The subject of our report is most transcendent, and claims our profound consideration. The field is white unto harvest! Thousands have been brought to the knowledge of the peerless Savior, and thousands upon thousands more are thirsting for this Divine information as the heart thirsteth after the cool, limpid, water-brook.

Christianity is a mighty and glorious society for the salvation of the world. Every individual member of this grand institution is under moral obligation to urge its sanctified claims upon all our species, either *directly*, by preaching it, or *indirectly*, by sustaining it. That none are saved without hearing of Jesus, is a truth which the Oracles of Deity hold out in the greatest relief! "Faith comes by HEARING, and hearing by the word of God," is the avowal of the Scriptures. O, brethren! there is no other theme connected with our work, calculated to call forth more feeling, and transporting eloquence, than that of Foreign Missions! Then arise from your lethargy, and think of the midnight regions of our Globe. Millions are ushered into the black caverns of infinite remorse and despair, which is mainly attributable to the remissness of the members of the church. Why is this? Are we doing our duty?—"Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead."

The limits of a report forbid us giving a full idea of what the glad tidings of joy and peace have done for the pitiable heathen. China, with her 400,000,000 of deathless souls, is open, and freely accessible to the missionary of the everlasting gospel. The borders and interior of Africa cry out, "O, bring us Jesus!" The universal cry of heathendom, is, for Preachers—Bibles—Jesus. Will you send them brethren? Every impulse of humanity eloquently urges you to do it. We urge this benevolent cause on the score of philanthropy, love and duty! We would respectfully recommend to this Association, the "Home and Foreign Journal," a Periodical, invaluable to the lovers of Missionary information. It is published at Richmond,

under the auspices of the "Foreign Missionary Board." We also recommend the efficiency as well as the usefulness of this Board in carrying out our Missionary operations.

Respectfully submitted.

THOS. NICHOLSON, CH'N COMM.

The following Churches called for letters of dismission, viz: Rock Spring, Friendship, Harmony, Brown's Valley, Warrior Creek, Blountsville, Mt. Tabor, Hopewell, Good Hope, Union, Arkadelphia, Blue Spring, Antioch, Flint Creek.

On motion, adjourned to meet Monday morning, at 9 o'clock.

BENEDICTION—By the Moderator.

SABBATH MORNING.—Quite a large congregation met at the stand, and was addressed in the forenoon by Elder Ball, from the great commission, "Go ye into all the world," &c., &c. Elder Booth preached in the evening, on the sufficiency of God's grace for his people.—We believe their labor was not in vain in the Lord.

MONDAY MORNING—9 o'clock—Prayer by Elder Strode.

Called for the report on queries, which was adopted, but not handed to the Clerk.

The Executive Board reported. The report was adopted:

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The Executive Board, appointed by the Muscle Shoals Association, beg leave to submit the following: They held their first meeting at the Office of C. Gibson, in Moulton, on the 18th day of January, 1859, and received reports from M. A. Verser, J. K. Lynn, and J. R. Cagle. And it appearing to the satisfaction of the Board that they had each labored two months as Missionaries in the bounds of said Association, on motion, the Chairman was directed to give to each of them a draft on the Treasurer, for \$50 00. On motion, the Committee adjourned, subject to the call of the Chairman.

Second Meeting.—At the request of C. Gibson, the Board met in Moulton, on the 17th of June, 1859, and, after some consultation, agreed to employ Brother Cagle three months, as there was no Missionary in the first and second Districts, and Brothers Verser, and Lynn, two months, in the third and fourth Districts—say, August and September—and the Chairman to give them notice of the same. Adjourned to the call of the Chairman.

Third Meeting.—At the call of C. Gibson, the Board met in Moulton, on Saturday before the 5th Sabbath in July, 1859, and employed Brother Finney to ride as Missionary in the west end of our bounds, until the sitting of the Association. The Board then adjourned.

Your Committee would further state the reason why the Missionaries were not resumed the first of July, according to the resolution of the Association. It was because of information from the Treasurer that the funds were less than anticipated, and no other pledges from the Churches had come in. We thought it unsafe to employ for three months, knowing the difficulty heretofore in raising the deficit at the Association.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. GIBSON, CHAIRMAN.

Elder Ball was granted the floor to present his claims as Agent for Domestic and Indian Missions, and collected for that purpose \$34 50.

Elder Strode was invited to take a seat in the Association, and also, E. H. Cogburn.

The Missionaries made the following reports:

M. Finney reported: Miles Traveled, 115; Sermons, 39; Exhortations 9; Prayer-meetings, 12; Witnessed Baptisms, 26; Conversions, 20; Assisted in the Ordination of one Minister, and three Deacons.

J. R. Cagle reported: Days Engaged, 145; Miles Traveled 986; Sermons preached, 96; Exhortations Delivered, 45; Baptized, 13; Received of the Treasurer, \$33 00.

M. A. Verser reported: Engaged, 4 months; Preached Sermons, 59; Delivered Exhortations, 31; Conducted 15 Prayer-meetings; Attended 7 Protracted Meetings; Baptized 69;

Witnessed 2 Baptisms; Witnessed 79 Conversions; Ordained 4 Deacons; Constituted 1 Church; Received of the Treasurer, \$50.00.

J. K. Lynn reported: 4 Months Engaged; Preached 107 Sermons; Delivered 62 Exhortations; Attended 34 Prayer-meetings; 9 Protracted Meetings; Baptized 81; Witnessed 30 Baptisms; Witnessed 87 Conversions; Assisted in the Ordination of 1 Deacon; Received of the Treasurer, \$33 00.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools reported. The report was adopted.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of Sabbath Schools, respectfully offer the following report:

We deem it almost unnecessary to say any thing concerning the importance of Sabbath Schools. Their importance and usefulness will be acknowledged by all. In them, the infant mind is trained in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. There, the seed is sown, which, in after years, germinates and brings forth the peaceable fruits of righteousness. Experience has demonstrated that more of our church members, particularly in our towns and cities, come from that class who have been instructed in the Sabbath School, than from those who have had no such instruction. It is, emphatically, the nursery of the church.

It is a lamentable fact that our churches do not take that interest in the organization of Sabbath Schools, that they ought. There are but few churches, in our Association, that regularly keep them up. Resolution after resolution has been passed by this body, recommending the formation of a Sabbath School in each church; but many of the churches have passed the resolutions by in silence, not even making an effort to establish a School. We cannot urge too strongly upon the churches the importance and necessity of Sabbath Schools, and of Baptist Sabbath Schools, where our children may be taught the whole truth, and where they may receive that training which will make them useful citizens, and consistent Christians. An enterprise so important, and upon which hangs the destinies of thousands of our race, should not be treated with indifference or neglect. Let us then, brethren, put forth stronger exertions in this cause. Let us have Sabbath Schools in all our churches—Baptist Sabbath Schools, if practicable—and we would earnestly recommend the Pastor of every church in the Association, to make an effort to organize a Sabbath School in his church, if there is not already one. We would also recommend the use of Baptist books, whenever it is practicable. These books can now be easily procured from our various publication societies, and Baptist publishing houses, all of which is respectfully submitted.

JOS. SHACKELFORD.

The Committee on the report of the President of the Female School at Moulton, reported. The report was adopted. This report called forth an able speech from Brother Gunn.

Report of the Committee on the Report of the Board of Trustees of the Female Institute.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the Report of the Board of Trustees of the Female Institute, beg leave to report, that, in their opinion, the only way to pay the Institute out of debt, will be, to employ an Agent to collect funds, and obtain subscriptions for that purpose. We would therefore recommend that the Trustees be instructed to employ an Agent, or Agents, at such salaries as they shall deem proper, to collect funds, which are to be appropriated to the payment of the debts of the Institute.

We would also recommend that the Pastors of Churches be requested to present the subject of the indebtedness of the Institute to their congregations, and take up subscriptions for the liquidation of the same.

We recommend the appointment of Messrs. Peters, Pickett, and Wise, as Trustees for the next three years, and D. Lyuch, and J. Y. Shoemaker, to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of J. N. Walker, and C. C. Gewin. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. SHACKELFORD.

The Committee on Finance reported. The report was adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Money for Home Missions,
for Minutes,

\$350 51.

67 10.

M. W. MAYS, CHAIRMAN.

I. N. Owen appointed Treasurer for the Association. Adjourned to 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—The Committee on the state of religion reported. The report was adopted.

Your Committee on the state of religion, beg leave to report, that we have not had an opportunity to examine the Letters from the Churches, but from a faint recollection of what was in them, as to the state of religion in different Churches in this Association, there seems to be a vast difference. While some say the Lord has done great things for us, whereof we are glad, some seem to say we have had faithful preaching—others say we have not had preaching. Upon the whole, we are hardly able to say, whether religion, from its fruits, is on the advance, or decline. However, we may safely say, from what we have heard, that it is on the advance, as there has been faithful preaching; and, we believe, that where the word of truth goes forth, it shall not return void, but shall accomplish that for which it was sent. And we, your Committee, would call your attention to the subject of praying for the power of the Holy Ghost; for we, as Baptists, believe this to be the dispensation of the Holy Ghost, and that, without Him, we can do nothing. All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. W. NUNN, CHAIRMAN.

Called for the report of the Committee on Education. The report was received.

Your Committee on Education, beg leave to submit the following Report: That having taken the subject of Education under prayerful consideration, beg leave to state, that we deem the cause of Education one of very high importance, and that we naturally look to the Christian world, as having devolved, upon it, its security and promotion; and, as a part of the great family of God, we, as a denomination, feel very deeply our responsibilities, and it becomes us to bear our part in the advancement of this great work. We have to regret our backwardness on the subject heretofore, but are pleased to state, at the same time, that there are increased and increasing interest on the subject of Education in our denomination.

We believe that condensation and unity of effort, are, in all things, necessary to success, and that the want of them heretofore by the unadvised diffusion of our efforts and means, in the multiplication of minor schools, has greatly retarded the interests of education; and, we would especially recommend to the notice of our denomination, the propriety of building up schools on liberal foundations, and of high grades, and relying upon those emanating from such nurseries of learning, to diffuse intelligence and refinement among us. It should never be forgotten, however, that all of our school interests should be carried on, in subserviency to the cause of Christ in our hands. Education should be to us a means, and not an end. In all our efforts in education, we should inquire what course will best promote the cause of Christ in our hands? Our efforts in education should be chiefly directed to the preparation of young men for the Ministry.

We recommend to the Association the propriety and importance of Female Education, and to rally around our Female Institute, at Moulton. All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. J. THOMPSON, CHAIRMAN.

Moved that this Association open a correspondence with the Alabama Convention. Elder J. Shackleford, Delegate.

The Churches are requested to report to the next Association all the moneys they pay for benevolent purposes.

Ordered that 1600 copies of the Minutes be printed.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the Brethren of Mt. Pisgah, and the citizens of

[10]

MINUTES.

[10]

that community, for the kind and hospitable treatment they gave the Delegates during the Association.

Moved and carried that the Muscle Shoals Association open a correspondence with the Tennessee River Association. G. L. Brown, M. A. Versor, Delegates. Brother Brown to write.

The Report of the Treasurer was read and received.

Your Treasurer begs leave to Report the following:

Minute fund last year,	\$ 65 00
Cash on hand,	\$151 85
Deduct worthless bills,	9 00—142 85
Cash sent up by Churches,	323 50
Collected on Sabbath,	33 00
Book fund,	104 00
	<hr/>
	\$668 35

By draft paid J. R. Cagle,	\$33 00
" " " J. K. Lynn,	33 00
" " " M. A. Versor,	50 00
Clerk,	25 00
Printing,	50 00
	<hr/>
	\$191 00

Beneficiary fund reported last year,
Collected of Brother Wallace,

\$ 45 00
109 00

\$154 00

CR.

By amount paid Brother Finney,

\$119 00

\$35 00

Appointed Distributing Agents, as follows:

1st District, G. W. Harcott.
2nd " A. G. OWEN.

3rd District,
4th "

M. A. VERSOR.
W. W. WILHITE.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the Clerk, and allow him the usual fee.

The business of the Association was thus harmoniously transacted. The parting hymn was sung, and the hand extended by the Delegates. Prayer by Elder J. Shackelford.

J. GUNN, MODERATOR.

W. W. WILHITE, CLERK.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.	Baptized.	By Letter.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Restored.	Dead.	Whites.	Blacks.	Total.	Contribution for Minutes.
District No. 1.											
Tusculumia,	R. Ellett,	6	15	2				29	173	202	\$2 00
Evening Shade,	M. Finney,			1			1	29	8	37	1 50
Macedonia,	A. Landers,			10	1	1		76	4	80	2 00
Mt. Moriah,	Letter,	1	1	1		4				78	1 50
Harp Spring,	No Letter,										
Cherry Hill,	Letter,				6			21		21	75
Duncan's Creek,	No Letter,		2								
Union,	No Letter,										
Russel Valley,	W. W. Pearson,	5	8	1			1			23	1 50
Bear Creek,	J. R. Cagle, J. B. Bird,	15								1 00	
District No. 2.											
New Prospect,	E. A. Burroll,		1	9	3					80	
Bethel,	W. A. NeSmith, D. C. Kent, Wm. Daleb,	10	5	15	8	1	7	171	1	172	2 00
Mt. Pleasant,	P. H. Mays,	2		4				48	196	244	2 00
Courtland,	J. Shackleford, M. W. Mays, A. G. Owen,	29	14	1	1			26	77	103	2 00
Liberty,	E. R. Stanley, S. M. Fowler,	2	2	6				33	219	282	2 00
Town Creek,	T. Green, P. J. Craig,	14	6	1	2	2				236	3 00
Harmony Grove,	No Letter,										
Enon,	C. Gibson, J. B. Speak, J. Milam,	3	1	2	1			94	36	130	2 00
Moulton,	I. N. Owen, W. A. Gilbert,		4	14			1			85	2 00
New Hope,	H. H. Crow,		1							9	1 00
Okalona,	No Letter,										
Salem, in Law,	B. Roden,										1 00
Pleasant Grove,	W. Ireland, W. Spain,	14	1	14	1					83	50
Antioch,	Letter,	7	3	3						18	1 20
Mt. Zion, in Law,	Letter,				1					13	50
New Prospect,	G. Norwood,		1	13						14	1 00
Bluff Springs,	C. M. Johnston, G. Turner, T. Johnston,	14								21	1 00
Rock Creek,	S. Eaton, C. Long, T. W. Baker,	3	10	2						24	1 00
District No. 3.											
Hopewell, in Mor.,	A. W. Nunn, N. Sandlin, S. B. Humphreys,	14	1	4	1			119	44	163	2 00
Mt. Pisgah,	J. Burleson, H. Reeves, J. Cively,	2	1	7				142	40	189	3 00
Spring Hill,	W. J. Thompson,							7	40	47	
Decatur,	J. Gunn, T. Nicholson, A. Houk,	7		5				39	14	53	2 50
Shoal Creek,	J. C. Halbrook, A. Ratliff,	5	2		1			73	9	82	1 00
Pleasant Hill,	D. Gregory, J. R. Anderton,	7	5			1				24	1 00
Flint Creek, Dis.,	J. K. Lynn, J. Holmes, C. B. Wilhite,	10	1	5	1					96	1 50
Blue Spring, Dis.,	J. Weaver, W. C. Denson,	11			2		1	33		33	1 00
Shilo,	A. Tapscott, S. N. Reeves, W. Harwood,		1	6			2	70	10	89	1 50
Salem, in Mor.,	No Letter,										
Mt. Zion, in Mor.,	W. W. Wilhite, J. Tapscott, C. L. Wilhite,	10	1	3	2		2	66	5	71	1 50
Lebanon,	I. Williams, J. P. Wilhite, J. L. Orr,	14	7	2						42	1 00
Macedonia, in Win.	No Letter,										
Friendship, in Mor.	Letter,		1							14	50
Bethlehem,	I. M. Ransom, J. Lipscomb, W. D. Williams	67	5	6	3			58	14	72	2 00
Concord,	M. A. Versor, O. D. Williams,	1	3		2	1		28	3	31	1 50
District No. 4.											
Hopewell, in Bl't,	B. M. Stephens, J. Edwards, R. F. Loveless,	1	11	5	1			60		60	2 00
Mt. Tabour,	W. H. Musgrove, D. W. Fowler,	1	1	1			1	43	3	46	1 00
Brown's Valley,	G. Fowler, J. W. Williams,	5	4	2				30	3	33	1 25
Good Hope,	H. S. Harris, J. J. Gentry, N. A. Livingston	7	4	2		1				30	75
Blountsville,	Letter,									12	1 20
Harmony,	J. Fields, H. Cornelius,	3	7	15	1			58	4	62	2 20
Arkadelphia,	Letter,										
Union,	A. Burns, J. Martin, L. Ballard,	10	10	4	2	1		48	1	49	1 25
Rock Spring,	G. L. Brown,	2	8		2			41	1	42	1 00
Warrior Creek,	W. Right, H. Davis,	5	10							55	1 00
		293	185	154	42	11	10	1470	935	3161	\$87 50

TABULAR STATEMENT---Continued.

CHURCHES.	Days of Meeting.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.
Tuscumbia,	First,	J. Gunn,	Decatur,
Evening Shade,	Second,	M. Finney,	Russelville,
Macedonia,		J. C. Roberts,	
Mount Moriah,	Fourth,	W. H. Bryon,	Russelville,
Cherry Hill,		J. R. Cagle,	
Russel Valley,	Fourth,	J. C. Roberts,	Landersville,
New Prospect,	Fourth,		Thorn Hill,
Bear Creek,	First,		Kenlock,
Bethel,		T. S. Carson,	Avoca,
Mount Pleasant,	Fourth,	J. Shackelford,	Leighton,
Courtland,	First,	J. Shackelford,	Coartland,
Liberty,	Third,	J. C. Roberts,	
Town Creek,	Second,	W. W. Willhite,	Landersville,
Enon,	Third,	J. Gunn,	Cedar Plains,
Mopilton,	Fourth,		Decatur,
Newhope,	Third,	P. H. Mays,	
Pleasant Grove,	Third,	J. P. Craig,	
Antioch,	Second,	J. R. Cagle,	Kenlock,
Mount Zion,	Fourth,	J. R. Cagle,	Danville,
New Prospect,	Third,	O. Larence,	Kenlock,
Bluff Spring,	Fourth,	J. R. Cagle,	Houston,
Rock Creek,	Third,	J. R. Cagle,	Decatur,
Hopewell, in Morgan,	Fourth,	J. Gunn,	Decatur,
Mount Pisgah,	Third,	J. Gunn,	Decatur,
Decatur,	Second,	T. Nicholson,	Decatur,
Shoal Creek,	First,	M. A. Verser,	Somerville,
Pleasant Hill,	Fourth,	W. J. Thompson,	Decatur,
Shilo,	Fourth,	J. K. Lynn,	Mount Alvis,
Mt. Zion, in Morgan,	Fourth,	W. W. Willhite,	Cedar Plains,
Lebanon,	Second,	W. W. Willhite,	Cedar Plains,
Friendship, in Morgan,		W. Right,	
Bethlehem,		M. A. Verser,	
Concord,	Fourth,	M. A. Verser,	Oleander,

